

To: Mr. Richard Helms, F&M.

From: ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Former Journalist in Hungary

Subject: Ferencz Vajtha

December 26, 47.

Ferencz Vajtha arrived in the United States a few days ago.

He is a man of about 35 years old, and before the war he was holding minor positions in the Hungarian Foreign Office and consular service.

When Count Teleky became Prime Minister Vajtha was fired for being one of the most pronounced nazis, and for being known as a crook.

At the beginning of the war he received German money to establish the notorious Hungarian weekly "AZ Orszag", and as the Editor of same he carried on the most vicious anti-American propaganda throughout the war, and until the collapse of the Horthy regime.

When Szalasi seized power he appointed Vajtha Consul General to Vienna, and he soon became the most vicious and notorious spokesman and representative of the criminal element in Szalasi's service.

He arranged to receive 20,000 deported Jews from Budapest, arranged for their trip afoot in 12" of snow (6000 of them were killed on the march) and maintained extensive propaganda office and radio broadcast inducing Hungarians to keep on fighting.

At the beginning of the siege of Vienna he skipped with the treasury and other valuables (such as rugs, objects of arts, etc), also with the valuables of his staff. When arrested by Americans some of the stolen property was found in his home.

By the definition of ~~the~~ ^{war crimes, by the} Allied governments he was considered

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one of the Hungarian arch-criminals, and was arrested with several others by order of the Seventh Army, and for awhile held in a cage near Augsburg.

A few weeks after his arrest he escaped to the French zone, and by disclosing the burial place of several thousand kilograms of gold, and some diamonds he worked himself into the good graces of the French authorities, in fact obtained employment with their security forces.

Several attempts were made by ~~the Americans~~ *USPA* to have him returned, and several promises were made by the French that he will be returned, (some at very high level) but when finally they had to do something about it, he was permitted to escape to Italy.

In Italy he worked himself into the good graces of high Catholic Circles, as well as into the friendship of some Americans, and when finally Austro-American authorities induced the Italians to arrest and return him, he was permitted to escape to Spain, allegedly with the assistance of a US Captain (CIC) Gowan who is said to be related to the first aid to Myron Taylor.

Ferencz Vajtha is a war criminal of the worst type, also a common criminal who would be sentenced to a long prison term, if not to be hanged by any Allied or Hungarian court.

His presence in the United States will serve to prove the allegation of the Cominform that our government is offering asylum to the most notorious and vicious nazi and fascist elements.